

# Earthbag Construction Workshop

phanganeearthworks

Popularized by Iranian architect and builder Nader Khalili since the 1970s, natural building in general and earthbag building (EB) in particular are becoming more and more relevant in a world where housing becomes less and less affordable. Building with earthbags allows the use of local, natural materials for the filling which substantially lowers the embodied energy commonly associated with the manufacture and transportation of building materials. Using earthbags results in extremely durable and strong structures (in a whole range of climates), for a minimal amount of money (compared to conventional construction methods).

**COME AND JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING 2-DAY WORKSHOP!**

**below:** finished earthbag structure on our property (completed in November 2009)



Participants will learn the basics of EB, and by the end of the weekend feel ready to begin a small structure by themselves. We will inspect existing buildings, do hands-on demonstrations on how to fill bags, how to lay them, and how to tamp them, and engage in Q & A sessions. Supplemental slide shows and film screenings will complete this full-immersion experience. Freshmen welcome, earthbag experience not required.

**Dates:** Saturday 12 March and Sunday 13 March 2016; Workshop hours are 08.00 - 12.00 and 13.30 - 17.30

**Where:** On our jungle hillside property in the hills above Sri Thanu village, Koh Phangan, Surat Thani 84280, THAILAND. Email us at [phanganeearthworks@gmail.com](mailto:phanganeearthworks@gmail.com) to ask questions and reserve your space today, or call Julien **+66 (0)83 393 90 21**.

**Price:** THB 4'000 (ca. €100) with an early-bird discount of THB 500 for registrations and full payments prior to 15 January 2016. The number of participants is limited to 30 people, first come first served.

**Teachers:** This introductory workshop will be taught by phanganeearthworks co-founder and owner **Julien Balmer**. After extensive study of alternative building methods in general, and earthen construction techniques in particular, Julien began conceptualizing the earthworks project in 2008. Over the past 5 years he has built five earthbag structures, including two darkroom meditation domes and a spacious and rather luxurious 70 sqm. house.



**above:** earthbag meditation dome on our property, before final render (completed in February 2010)

## WHAT PAST PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY:

- I've never really built large structures like this, very cool to feel like I know enough to get started when I want. (Adam, New Zealand)
- I feel inspired to be more serious about alternative building techniques. I would love to build in the near future. (Cass, Australia)

[www.phanganeearthworks.com](http://www.phanganeearthworks.com)